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May 15, 2017

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth St, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Expanding the Economic and Innovation Opportunities of Spectrum  
Through Incentive Auctions, GN Docket No. 12-268

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On May 11, 2017, Michael Gravino, Director of the LPTV Spectrum Rights Coalition, LLC (COALITION), met with fifteen (15) members of the FCC's Incentive Auction Task Force (IATF). In attendance from the FCC were: Jean Kiddo (Chair, IATF), Hillary DeNigro (Deputy Chair, IATF), Barbara Kreisman (Chief, Video Division), Kevin Harding (Assoc. Chief, Video Division), Margaret Wiener (Chief, ASAD/WTB), Charles Meisch (MB), Joyce Bernstein (MB), Mark J. Colombo (OET), Sasha Javid (IATF), Erin Griffith (IATF), Shaun Maher (MB), Evan Morris (MB), Tony Coudert (IATF), and Brian Smith (IATF).

The COALITION discussed three items: 1) Repack Phase "Zero"; 2) Service Waivers in Lieu of Relocation Funding; and, 3) Status of current mutually exclusive displacement applications (MX), and a clarification of the MX process for the new LPTV displacement applications.

#### **1) REPACK "PHASE ZERO" IMPACTS**

The Coalition, during research it has conducted related to the impacts from the displacements from the auction and repacking, has uncovered a new, "pre-transition phase", which we are calling, "Phase Zero". Phase Zero are those TV DMA, and their corresponding Partial Economic Areas (PEA), which can be cleared for wireless use, without having to wait for any primary broadcasters to move.

The largest winning bidder in the auction, T-Mobile, has publicly stated that it wants to clear a million square miles of 600 MHz spectrum in late 2017, early 2018. A problem

the Coalition discussed with the IATF was that of the unharmonized timelines between when the Phase Zero displacements will occur, and when the FCC will open and conduct the LPTV displacement filing window. It was explained to the IATF that Phase Zero stations could be dark for longer than one year, and would need special waivers to keep their licenses.

## PHASE ZERO BIG DATA

TV DMA affected:

DMA Name	ST	DMA #
ALPENA	MI	209
AMARILLO	TX	130
ANCHORAGE	AK	146
BANGOR	ME	156
BILLINGS	MT	168
CASPER-RIVERTON	WY	197
CHEYENNE	WY	196
COLUMBIA-JEFFERSON CITY	MO	138
DOTHAN	AL	172
EUREKA	CA	195
FAIRBANKS	AK	202
GLENDALE	MT	210
GRAND JUNCTION	CO	185
GREENWOOD-GREENVILLE	MS	190
HATTIESBURG	MS	167
HELENA	MT	205
JUNEAU	AK	207
LAFAYETTE	IN	189
LAREDO	TX	184
LINCOLN-HASTINGS-KEARNEY	NE	105
MANKATO	MN	199
NORTH PLATTE	NE	208
OTTUMWA	IA	201
PRESQUE ISLAND	ME	206
RAPID CITY	SD	173
SAN ANGELO	TX	198
ST. JOSEPH	MO	200
TWIN FALLS	ID	192
WHEELING	WV	157
YUMA	AZ	166

- 30 TV DMA affected
- 15 States
- 2.5 million TV pops
- 28 LPTV and TV translator Licensees
  - 11 Civic (Govt & Ed) - 13 Commercial - 4 Religious
- 46 Licensed Stations
- 100 Channels of Diverse Content
  - 19 Channels of Big Four (ABC/CBS/NBC/FOX) Major Network Affiliates
  - 37 Channels of PBS programming
  - 21 Secondary Diverse Networks
  - 3 Foreign Language Networks
  - 20 Religious Channels

**2) SERVICE WAIVERS IN LIEU OF RELOCATION FUNDING**

The Coalition alerted the Media Bureau and Video Division, that there were probably relocation funding eligible Class A stations which were going to file to not accept the funding, and apply for flexible use services, as authorized by the auction legislation, and FCC rulemaking. And that these Class A stations may be filing for flexible uses such as LTE, 5G, or as a wireless internet service provider.

**3) MUTUAL DISPLACEMENT APPLICATIONS (MX) STATUS AND PROCESS**

The Coalition asked for clarification of possibly 100s of pending MX applications still unresolved from the 2009 rural filing window. And that these MX app's no matter how many, need to be resolved before the LPTV displacement window. The Coalition requested that any time which could be reduced in the MX process should be, since it will be essential for displaced stations to find as quickly as possible in order to not be dark for longer than a year.

Respectfully submitted,

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Michael Gravino  
Director